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谁来公布这些数据？教育部与卫生与公众服务部达成协议后的聋人教育数据

Heather Grizzle · October 8, 2026

ED-HHS特殊教育协议涵盖了Gallaudet、NTID和IDEA数据工作，但从未说明谁将继续发布第618条款文件。

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The agreement that moved special education's daily work to HHS also covers Gallaudet, NTID and the Helen Keller National Center, and it never says who will keep publishing the numbers



摘要

- On June 15, 2026, the Education Department and HHS signed an agreement under which HHS provides services to run IDEA's grant programs, monitoring, state performance determinations and data work.
- 同一协议还涵盖《聋人教育法》相关项目，包括NTID，以及Gallaudet大学、海伦·凯勒国家中心和美国盲人印刷所。
- It splits data between the two agencies, with the Education Department keeping "data collection" and HHS providing services to support "the collection, reporting, and analyzing of data." It never names the IDEA Section 618 data, the EDFacts system, or the Annual Report to Congress.
- 这些联邦文件是唯一以统一方式统计各州聋人及重听学生人数的数据来源。目前尚无人公开说明今后将由谁继续发布这些数据。

Every state file in the National Deaf Education Data Index starts in the same place: a school district's own website, a state agency's own reports, and a federal spreadsheet. The first two vary wildly. Some states publish a careful count of deaf and hard of hearing students by district every fall; others publish nothing a parent could find. The federal spreadsheet is the constant. When NDEDI built its Nevada file in September, the clearest picture of where deaf and hard of hearing students actually learn came from that federal file: of 518 students aged 5 to 21 served under the hearing impairment category in 2024-25, 307 spent at least 80 percent of their day in a regular classroom, and none were reported in a separate school or residential setting. The state's own count could be checked against it. Without it, there would have been nothing to check against.

该电子表格是IDEA第618条数据的一部分，即各州每年向联邦政府报告的、按残疾类别、年龄、安置环境等划分的、依据《残疾人教育法》（IDEA）接受服务的儿童统计数据。各州通过一个名为EDFacts的联邦系统提交这些数据。教育部将其以州级文件的形式发布在其开放数据平台上，并在向国会提交的年度报告中加以汇总。对于任何想要比较堪萨斯州和肯塔基州聋人儿童教育情况的人来说，这是唯一能以统一标准涵盖所有州的数据来源。



6月发生的变化

On June 15, 2026, the Education Department and the Department of Health and Human Services signed an interagency agreement on special education and rehabilitative services, announced the next day alongside a separate agreement moving civil rights enforcement to the Justice Department. The agreement is short, eight pages, and plain about what moves. Under section 3.A, HHS commits to provide services, "in coordination with and at the direction of ED-OSERS," supporting the administration of IDEA's grant programs under Parts B, C and D; enforcement, compliance and monitoring; the "annual performance determinations" that rate each state; fiscal audits; and "the collection, reporting, and analyzing of data for monitoring compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and for improving outcomes for infants, toddlers, children, youth, and adults with disabilities."

The Education Department keeps statutory responsibility for IDEA. Under section 3.B, it retains "Management and leadership of OSERS' programs and activities," which the agreement says includes "but not limited to enforcement, compliance, monitoring, fiscal management and data collection," along with representation before its Data Governance Board, the Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office. The agreement took effect on the date of the last signature, has no end date, and can be terminated by either side on 90 days' written notice. The contact named for HHS sits in its Administration on Disabilities.

FIGURE 1

Who does what under the June 15, 2026 agreement

HHS provides services for Section 3.A, "in coordination with and at the direction of ED-OSERS" • Administering IDEA grant programs (Parts B, C and D) • Education of the Deaf Act programs, including NTID • Gallaudet University • Helen Keller National Center and the American Printing House for the Blind • Enforcement, compliance and monitoring; annual performance determinations • "The collection, reporting, and analyzing of data"	The Education Department keeps Section 3.B • "Management and leadership" of OSERS programs, "including but not limited to enforcement, compliance, monitoring, fiscal management and data collection" • Representation before its Data Governance Board, the Inspector General and GAO • Statutory responsibility for IDEA
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Source: Interagency Agreement Between the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Relating to Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, signed June 15, 2026. In effect until terminated; either party may end it on 90 days' notice.

图1：2026年6月15日协议下的职责分工。高亮部分与聋人及聋盲教育关系最为密切。



聋人读者不应忽略的部分

Most coverage of the agreement has focused, reasonably, on IDEA and on what it means for students' individualized education programs. Further down the same list are four items that bear directly on Deaf and DeafBlind education. HHS will provide services supporting "the administration of program components authorized under the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, including the National Technical Institute for the Deaf"; supporting "the administration of Gallaudet University," described in the agreement as "intended to provide education and training to individuals who are deaf and otherwise to further the education of individuals who are deaf"; supporting the Helen Keller National Center Act programs; and supporting the American Printing House for the Blind.

The agreement does not change what any of these institutions are, and it does not say what "services supporting the administration" of a university means in practice. It does mean that the federal relationship with the two national institutions of Deaf higher education, and with the national center for DeafBlind adults, now runs in part through a health department rather than an education department. In the coverage NCG reviewed, that has drawn far less attention than it deserves.

数据去向变得模糊的地方

Read closely, the agreement splits the data work between the two departments without saying how. The Education Department keeps "data collection" as part of its management and leadership. HHS provides "services to support the collection, reporting, and analyzing of data." Who designs the collection, who runs EDFacts, who checks the states' submissions, who publishes the state-level files, and who writes the Annual Report to Congress are not stated. The agreement never uses the words "Section 618," "EDFacts" or "Annual Report to Congress," and it contains no commitment to keep publishing the data at its current level of detail or on its current schedule.

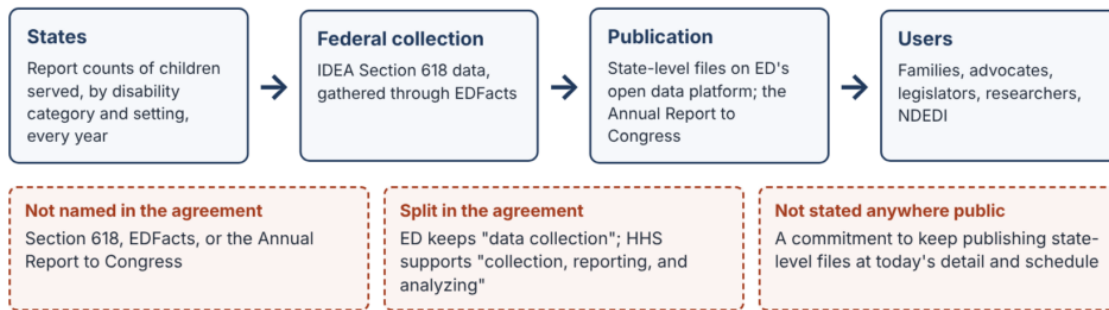
这或许只是跨部门协议惯常的撰写方式，这类协议通常只描述服务与资金安排，而非逐项列明所有产出。但这一空白之所以重要，是因为在该协议签署之前已发生过相关事件。2025年10月政府停摆期间，裁员通知（RIF）席卷了教育部，[K-12 Dive](#)的报道称，特殊教育协会的负责人们认为特殊教育项目办公室的大多数人员已被裁撤。11月，一项临时拨款法案暂时恢复了特殊教育康复服务办公室的人员编制。七个月后，相关



日常工作被移交给了HHS。一个数据系统可以承受很多冲击，但它依赖的是熟悉它的人，而公开记录中并未说明这些人员目前归属何处。

FIGURE 2

The chain that produces the national numbers, and where the agreement goes quiet



Sources: the June 15, 2026 agreement; ed.gov, IDEA Section 618 Data; data.gov catalog entry for IDEA Section 618 state-level files (metadata last modified May 7, 2026). The notes row is NCG's reading.

图2：生成全国统计数据的工作链条，以及协议在何处陷入沉默。底部一行是NCG的解读。

自那以后发生了什么

The record since June is mixed, not alarming. The Office of Special Education Programs held its annual conference in August, with sessions on "high-quality section 618 data." Its September 9 bulletin announced that the 47th Annual Report to Congress on IDEA had been released, with a companion fact sheet, and a panel at the conference said IDEA rights "cannot and will not change through our partnership." The federal catalog entry for the state-level 618 files was last updated on May 7, 2026, before the agreement was signed. Nothing NCG located says the next files will be late, or thinner, or published somewhere else. Nothing says they won't be, either. And K-12 Dive's reading of the agreement in June found that states and districts were still asking which HHS office would oversee the work and who would send them guidance.



FIGURE 3

How federal special education oversight got here



Sources: K-12 Dive, October 12, 2025 and June 18, 2026; Council for Exceptional Children, November 2025; the June 15, 2026 agreement; OSEP Update, September 9, 2026.

图3：联邦特殊教育监督职责演变至今的历程。

为何聋人教育首当其冲地感受到这一变化

每一个残疾类别都依赖这些文件，但聋人教育对它们的依赖方式尤为特殊。聋人及重听学生属于低发生率群体，是分散在众多学区中、占比很小的一部分儿童，而这恰恰是州和学区报告最容易遗漏的群体。出于隐私考虑，数量较少的统计数字往往会被隐去。通过合作项目或区域项目为两名聋人学生提供服务的学区，常常根本不发布任何数据。在这样的情况下，联邦文件往往是唯一存在全州层面数据的地方，也是唯一能够实现各州间比较的依据。如果第618条数据出现缺失，最有可能从公开记录中消失的，正是那些本就最难被看见的学生。

应当以书面形式明确的事项

这一切都无需假设任何一方存心不良，只需要补上协议中缺失的几句话。教育部与HHS可以通过公开声明来解决这一问题，明确以下内容：

- That the IDEA Section 618 collection through EDFacts will continue on its existing schedule, at its existing level of detail, including disability category by state.
- Which department, and which office, publishes the state-level files and the Annual Report to Congress from now on, and where.
- That historical files will stay available at their current addresses.
- Who to contact with questions about the data, now that the HHS contact for the agreement sits in the Administration on Disabilities.

Families, state special education directors, state deaf commissions and legislators can ask for exactly that, in writing, through the Education Department's Office of Special



Education and Rehabilitative Services. NDEDI's state files cite the federal data by school year and source, so any change in what is published will show up in the record rather than disappearing into it. NDEDI's state release schedule is at ndedi.org.

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